

1. A chuck assembly for use with a semiconductor wafer plasma etching device, the assembly comprising:

a chuck;

5 a pedestal coupled to the chuck and having a longitudinal axis; and

a drive motor coupled to the pedestal for rotating the pedestal about the longitudinal axis.

2. A chuck assembly comprising:

an internally cooled chuck;

10 a clamp coupled to the chuck;

a pedestal coupled to the chuck and having a central bore and a longitudinal axis, the chuck and pedestal cooperating to define a coolant chamber that communicates with the central bore; and

15 a drive motor coupled to the shaft for rotating the shaft about the longitudinal axis.

3. The assembly of claim 2 wherein the clamp includes an electrostatic clamp.

20 4. The assembly of claim 3 wherein the electrostatic clamp includes an electrostatic bias roller disposed in contact with the shaft.

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5. The assembly of claim 2 further comprising a spider disposed in the coolant chamber and a push rod coupled to the spider and disposed in the central bore, the push rod including a coolant passage in communication with the coolant chamber.

6. A chuck assembly for use with a plasma etching device, the assembly comprising:

a chuck including a top surface having a plurality of slots;

a pedestal coupled to the chuck and defining therewith a coolant chamber in communication with the slots, the pedestal having a longitudinally extending passage in fluid communication with the coolant chamber, the pedestal being rotatable about a longitudinal axis;

a plurality of lift pins disposed in the coolant chamber and coupled to a longitudinally extending push rod disposed in the pedestal, the push rod including a coolant passage in communication with the coolant chamber; and

an electrostatic clamp including an electrostatic voltage source coupled to the shaft.

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2. ~~12~~. The method of claim ~~11~~, wherein the pedestal cooperates with the chuck to define a coolant chamber and includes a shaft having a coolant passage in communication with the coolant chamber, the step of internally cooling further including the step of introducing coolant to the coolant chamber through the coolant passage.

10 ~~13~~. The method of claim ~~10~~ wherein the pedestal includes a push rod having a coolant passage, the coolant passage being in communication with a coolant source and a coolant chamber defined by the chuck and the pedestal.

4. ~~14~~. The method of claim ~~10~~ wherein the chuck includes an electrostatic clamp.

15 ~~15~~. The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of initializing process parameters, the process parameters including gas flow, process chamber pressure, water temperature, and pedestal rotation speed.

~~16~~. The method of claim ~~10~~ further including the step of unloading the wafer from the chuck after plasma etching, the unloading step including the steps of providing a lift actuator coupled to a push rod and a spider and actuating the lift actuator, the push rod pushing the

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spider to move the wafer away from the chuck in response to actuation of the lift actuator.

17. A plasma etching machine comprising:
a process chamber;
- 5 a rotatable, internally cooled chuck disposed in the process chamber, and
- a controller coupled to the process chamber and chuck for controlling gas flow and pressure in the process chamber and rotation of the chuck.
- 10 18. The machine of claim 17 further comprising a pedestal coupled to the chuck and cooperating therewith to define a coolant chamber, the pedestal including a coolant passage in fluid communication with a coolant source and the coolant chamber.
- 15 19. The machine of claim 18 further including a lift actuator coupled to the coolant passage, the coolant passage moving in the pedestal in response to actuation of the lift mechanism to lift a wafer from the chuck.
- 20 20. The machine of claim 17 further including a pedestal coupled to the chuck, a block coupled to the process chamber, the pedestal being disposed in the block for rotation therein, and a bellows assembly coupled to the

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pedestal, the block, pedestal, and bellows assembly cooperating with each other to seal the process chamber.

21. A plasma etching machine comprising:
a process chamber;

5 a chuck disposed in the process chamber;

a pedestal coupled to the chuck and cooperating therewith to define a coolant chamber, the pedestal including a coolant passage in communication with the coolant chamber;

10 a drive motor coupled to the pedestal for rotating the pedestal during plasma etching.

22. The machine of claim 21 further comprising a bellows assembly coupled to the pedestal and to a source of coolant, and a lift mechanism coupled to the bellows
15 assembly, the lift mechanism including a lift plate coupled to a push rod disposed in the pedestal, the push rod including the coolant passage and being coupled to a plurality of lift pins, the lift pins lifting a wafer from the chuck in response to movement of the lift
20 plate.

23. A plasma etching machine comprising:
a process chamber defining an interior region and including a bottom wall having an aperture;

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a block disposed in the aperture and including a
longitudinally extending bore;
a shaft extending through the bore and including a
spider push rod extending longitudinally therethrough,
5 the shaft being supported for rotation in the bore;

a chuck coupled to the shaft and disposed in the
interior region, the chuck cooperating with the shaft to
define a coolant chamber;

10 a spider disposed in the coolant chamber and coupled to
the spider push rod;

a lift mechanism coupled to the spider push rod, the
spider pushing up on a wafer in response to actuation of
the lift mechanism; and

15 a drive motor coupled to the shaft for rotating the
shaft during a plasma etching process.

24. The machine of claim 23 wherein the block includes a
plurality of bearings for supporting the shaft for
rotation in the block and a plurality of seals for
sealing the process chamber.

20 25. The machine of claim 23 further comprising a bellows
assembly coupled to the shaft and to a coolant source,
the lift mechanism including a lift plate coupled to the

bellows assembly, the lift plate and bellows assembly
being movable between a wafer lifting position and a
disengaged position, the spider push rod including a
coolant passage in communication with the chamber and
5 being movable in response to movement of the lift plate
and bellows assembly.

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